Maurice Hinchey NEWS 26 TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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FEDERAL FUNDS TO BE RELEASED TO KIERSTEDE HOUSE

KINGSTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (NY-26) today announced that a \$149,670 grant he secured in a federal appropriations bill for the renovation of the historic DuBois-Kierstede House in the Village of Saugerties has successfully completed the approval process. A member of the House Appropriations Committee, Hinchey placed the funding earmark in the fiscal year 2001 spending bill for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"Thanks to the generosity of private donors, the Saugerties Historical Society was able to acquire a great site," said Hinchey. "When I heard about it, it immediately struck me as a good candidate for federal assistance. I was very pleased that I was able to make that idea a reality. SHS has done a lot of hard work and shown great perseverance in moving this project forward."

The Saugerties Historical Society purchased the DuBois-Kierstede House to serve as its headquarters and to house its collections. Hinchey approached SHS with the idea of obtaining federal funding and then succeeded in doing so during the FY '01 appropriations process. Since then, SHS has worked with HUD on a project proposal that would meet federal eligibility criteria. HUD informed Hinchey today that the funding approval letter for the project has now been finalized. The federal funds will be used to make the renovations necessary to bring the building up to code as an office space and public facility.

"We're very grateful to Congressman Hinchey for thinking of us and for following through in getting the funds," said Richard Buono, President of Saugerties Historical Society. "This money is going to allow us to renovate this great historic building the way it should be done."